



# LINCOLN CHAFEE

## U.S. SENATOR

### RHODE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CHAFEE SUPPORTS ADDITIONAL LIHEAP FUNDS FOR 2006**

*Rhode Island May be Provided with up to \$16 Million in  
Emergency Funding*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Yesterday, **U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee** voted to approve legislation that would provide an additional \$1 billion in funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for fiscal year 2006. The measure passed the Senate by a vote of 68-31 and will now move on to the House of Representatives for further consideration. If passed by the House and signed into law, Rhode Island would stand to benefit from approximately \$16 million in additional LIHEAP funds, which would help subsidize energy costs for its neediest residents.

“Rhode Islanders face some of the nation’s most expensive burdens in meeting their home heating needs. I am pleased to have supported this legislation, which will provide a substantial increase in dollars to help Rhode Island residents meet these needs,” Senator Chafee said.

As approved by the Senate, the bill will release \$500 million under the traditional LIHEAP funding formula and designate \$500million as emergency funds, which the Administration will distribute at its discretion.

Senator Chafee has been a consistent advocate for the release of additional LIHEAP funding, recently writing to President Bush and Senate Majority Leader Frist requesting \$900 million in emergency funding as part of a comprehensive appropriations package addressing the impacts of Hurricane Katrina. In addition, he joined a bipartisan group of Senators in writing to Senate Committee on the Budget Chairman Judd Gregg and Ranking Member Kent Conrad, requesting \$3 billion to fund LIHEAP as part of the fiscal year 2006 budget. Chafee also requested that the allocation provide for advance funding for fiscal year 2007 to pre-purchase fuel and start planning for the winter heating season in the spring and early summer.

**-MORE-**

Individuals interested in applying for LIHEAP assistance should contact the Rhode Island State Energy Office at (401) 222-3003. Other inquiries should be directed to:

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